

# Basic Detail Report

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## Squires Rowing Scull

**Vessel number**

HV000154

**Date**

1962

**Primary Maker**

George Towns and Sons

### Description

The hull is constructed with a single veneer of Australian red cedar, and is one of the last examples of this construction method before it was replaced with plywood. The veneer method produced a light hull with good longitudinal stiffness, but with no internal framing the veneer was prone to splitting. The builder glued strips of silk on the inside across the planking at about 3 in (75 mm) centres to prevent this happening. The craft also features a spruce 'I' beam on the centreline under the seat position to spread the load onto a greater length of the hull. It remains in excellent condition and is used occasionally, complete with wooden oars made by the builders. The builder, George Towns and Sons had a shed at Gladesville NSW on the Parramatta River, now part of the site for the Sydney Grammar School rowing shed. They were a longstanding firm of racing shell builders with a reputation for the highest quality construction. Their shells were used throughout Australia, New Zealand and North America, winning many major events within Australia and internationally. Update June 2023: The Squires Rowing Scull is now permanently displayed from the ceiling of the Buckingham Rowing Club clubroom.

### Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 8 m x 7.8 m x 0.27 m x 0.09 m, 0.09 tonnes (26.25 ft x 25.59 ft x 0.89 ft x 0.3 ft, 0.09 tons)